WESTERN TEAM-UP
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WESTERN TEAM-UP™

FEATURING

THE RAWHIDE KID™ AND THE DAKOTA KID™

FIRST FAST-SHOOTING ISSUE!

HERE THEY COME! MAKE EVERY SHOT COUNT, DAKOTA!

WE'RE SURROUNDED, KID! WE'VE HAD IT!

RIDE THE LAWLESS LAND!

Stan Lee PRESENTS: RAWHIDE KID AND INTRODUCING THE DAKOTA KID™

RIDE THE LAWLESS LAND!

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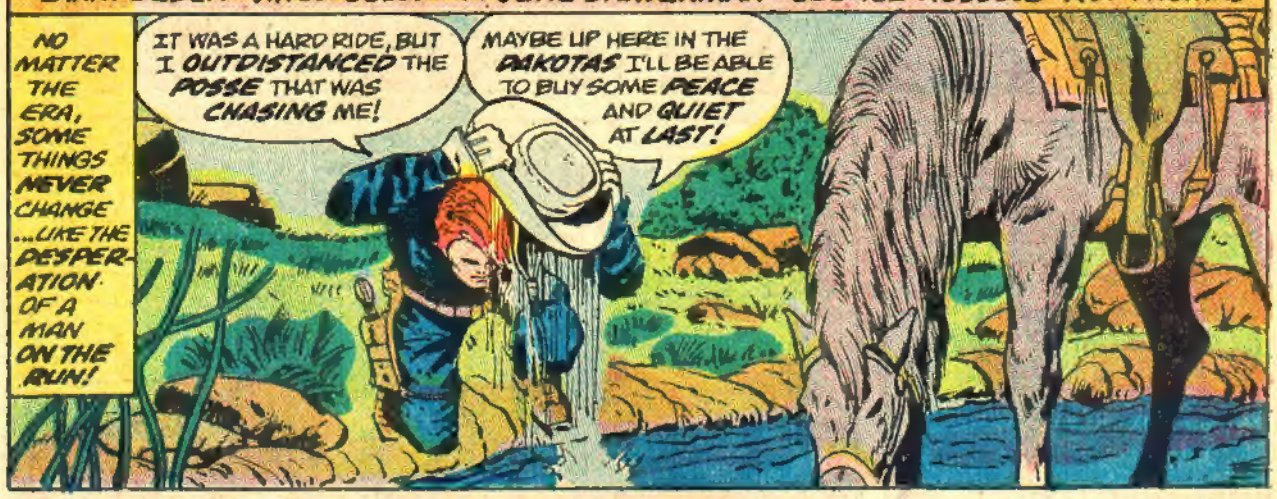

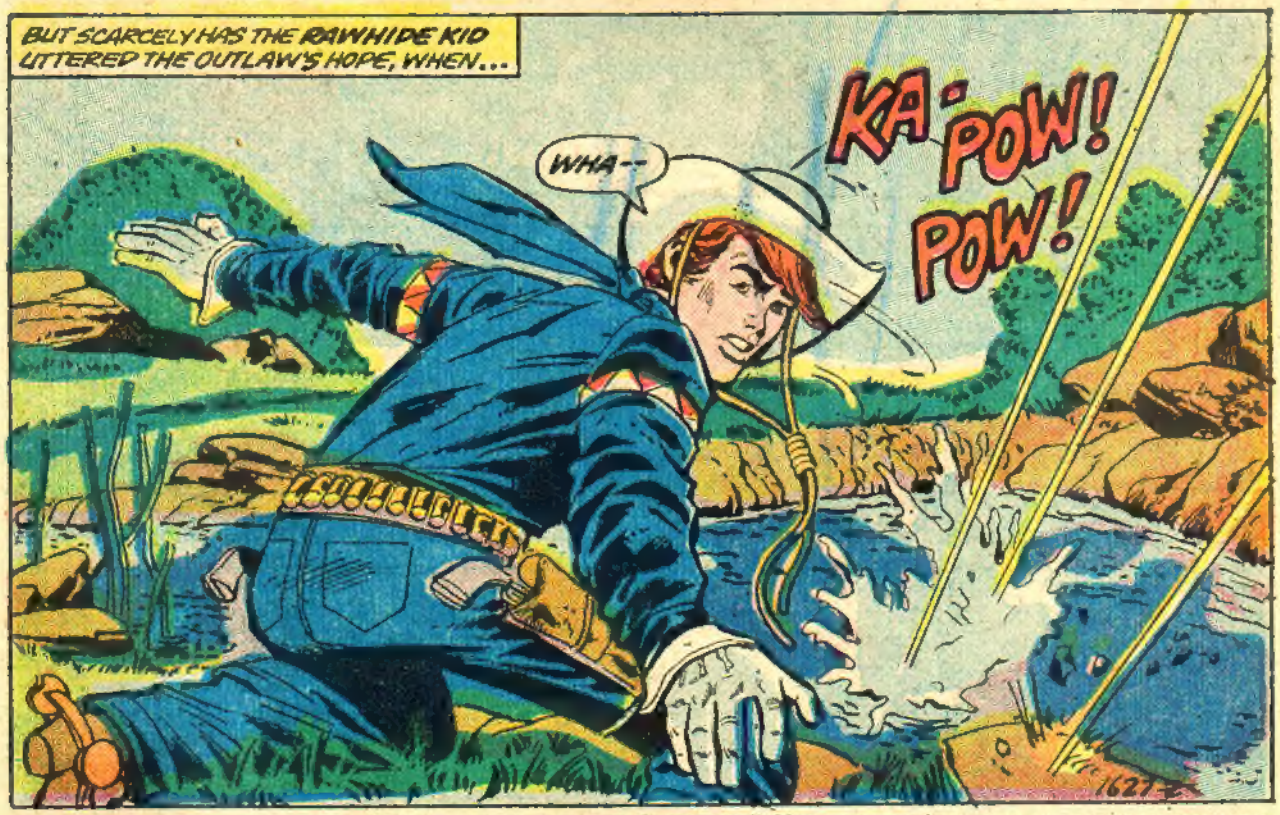

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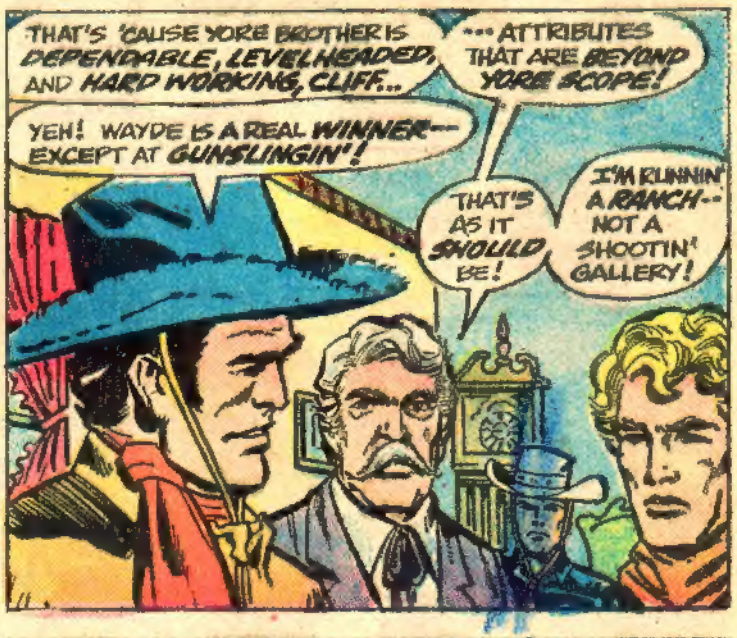
THAT WAS JUST A WARNIN', HOMBRE!
NOW TALK! WHO ARE YUH? WHUT ARE YUH DOIN' ON MORGAN LAND?
MY NAME IS JOHNNY CLAY!
I'M CLEE MORGAN, THO IN THESE PARTS MORE FOLKS KNOW ME AS THE DAKOTA KID!
AN' YORE THE RAWHIDE KID, AIN'T YUH?
I'VE BEEN CALLED THAT-- AND OTHER NAMES I'D AS SOON FORGET!
SHUCKS-- YORE, BEIN' TOO MODEST, KID!
I KNOW YORE REP AS A FAST GUN!
BUT I'M NO DUDE MUHSELF!
MATTER OF FACT, I THINK I CAN TAKE YUH!
LET'S FIND OUT!
GO ON, KID-- GO FOR YORE IRONS!
NOT A CHANCE! I NEVER DRAW WITHOUT A REASON.
S'MATTER? SCARED?
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
I THINK YORE ONE COOL HOMBRE!
BUT IF IT'S NOT ACTION YORE AFTER, WHUT DO YUH WANT IN THESE PARTS?
HOW ABOUT A JOB?
A JOB? OKAY! MOUNT UP AND FOLLOW ME!
WE'LL GO SEE MUH PA THE COLONEL!
HE LIVES IN A MIGHTY BIG HOUSE!
HE'S A MIGHTY BIG MAN!
COLONEL, MEET THE RAWHIDE KID!
HE'S LOOKIN' FOR WORK!
WELL LET 'IM LOOK SOMEWHERE ELSE!
I DON'T HIRE GUNSLINGIN' TRASH!
WELL, KID -- YOU'VE GOT YORE ANSWER!



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PA, YOU'RE NOT BEING FAIR TO CLIFF!
SURE, HE'S CAREFREE AND HEADSTRONG!
BUT DEEP INSIDE, HE'S AS FINE AND DECENT AS ANY MAN AROUND!
SAVE YOUR BREATH, RACHEL!
THE COLONEL MADE UP HIS MIND ABOUT ME A LONG TIME AGO!
AND, WHILE A HOUSE DIVIDED STRUGGLES TO SURVIVE...
KEEP 'EM TIGHT, KID!
I DON'T WANT ANY STRAYS!
RIGHT, BOSS!
BUT THE MORGAN RANCH IS ABOUT TO LOSE MORE THAN STRAYS... FOR THAT NIGHT THE FOREMAN MEETS WITH PEOPLE HE SHOULDN'T!
I HEAR THE RAWHIDE KID IS PUNCHIN' COWS!
YEH! IT'S A LUCKY BREAK!
NOW WHEN WE RUSTLE MORGAN'S STEERS, I'LL HAVE ME A READY MADE FALL GUY TO TAKE THE BLAME!
AND THE FOLLOWING DAY...
HEY, DAKOTA— WE'VE GOT TO GATHER IN THE HERD FROM THE NORTH RANGE!
SORRY, BUT I'VE GOT A DATE WITH A FILLY IN TOWN!
CLIFF TOOK OFF, COLONEL!
WE'RE A HAND SHORT!
DANG THAT IRRESPONSIBLE SON OF MINE!
DON'T FRET, PA! I'LL HANDLE CLIFF'S CHORES!
I KNOW YUH WILL, WAYDE!
YUH ALWAYS DO!
THE POINT IS THAT YUH WOULDN'T HAVE TO, IF CLIFF PULLED HIS OWN WEIGHT!
BUT HE'S NO GOOD! HE NEVER WAS, AND HE NEVER WILL BE!

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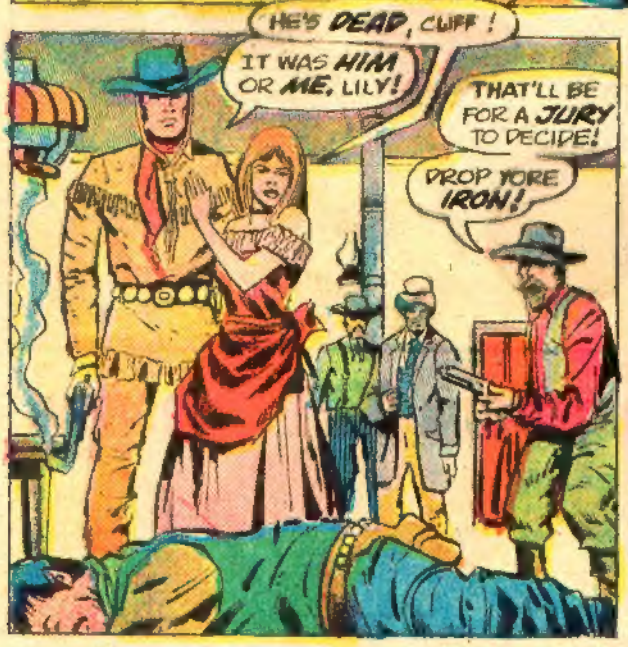
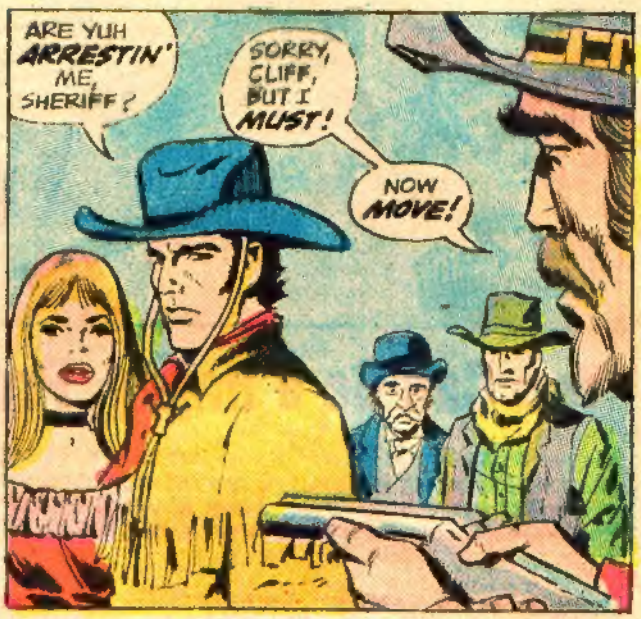
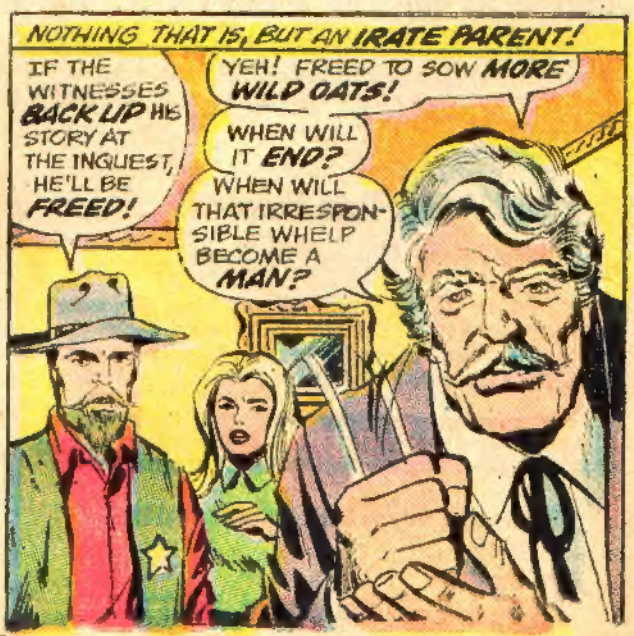
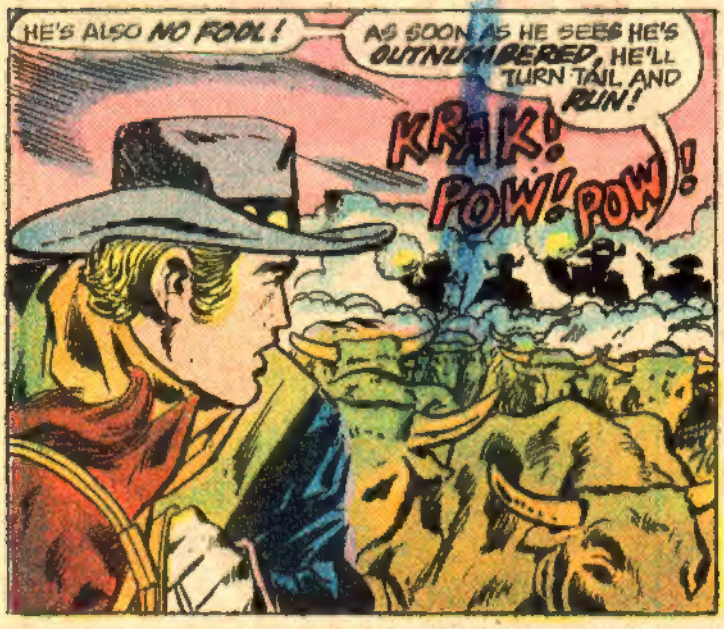
POW!
AND I'M RIGHT EAGER TO OBLIGE YUH!
HOLY COW! MORGAN LET THOMSON CLEAR LEATHER--
--THEN HE DREW AND FIRED BEFORE THOMSON COULD SQUEEZE THE TRIGGER!
HE'S THE FASTEST DRAW I EVER SAW!


HE'S DEAD, CLIFF!
IT WAS HIM OR ME, LILY!
THAT'LL BE FOR A JURY TO DECIDE!
DROP YORE IRON!


ARE YUH ARRESTIN' ME, SHERIFF?
SORRY, CLIFF, BUT I MUST!
NOW MOVE!

THE PEOPLE IN THE SALOON SAW THAT THOMSON CALLED ME OUT!
THEN YUH'VE GOT NUTHIN' TO FRET OVER!


NOTHING THAT IS, BUT AN IRATE PARENT!
IF THE WITNESSES BACK UP HIS STORY AT THE INQUEST, HE'LL BE FREED!
YEH! FREED TO SOW MORE WILD OATS!
WHEN WILL IT END?
WHEN WILL THAT IRRESPONSIBLE WHELP BECOME A MAN?



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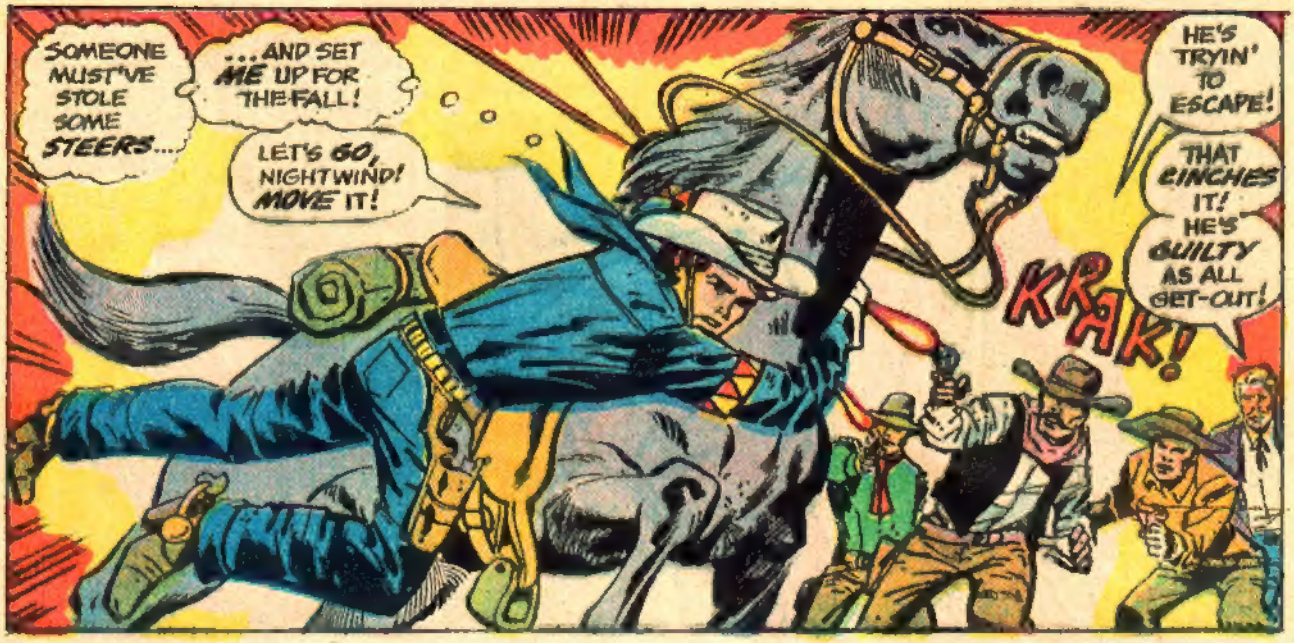
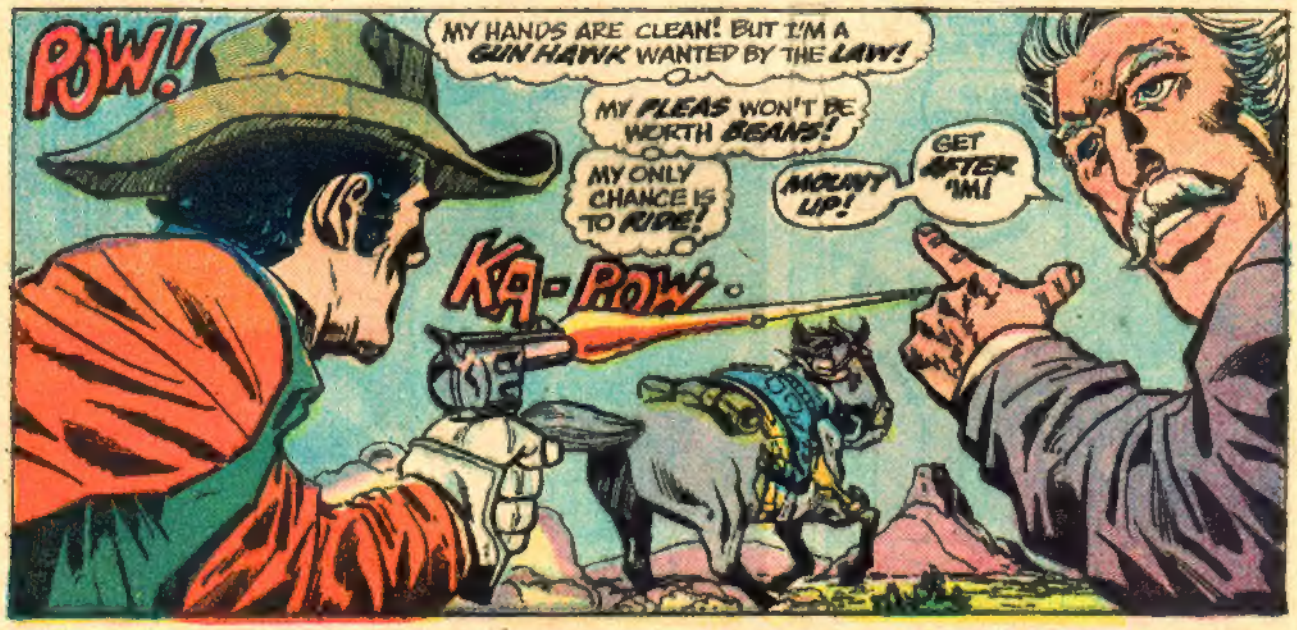
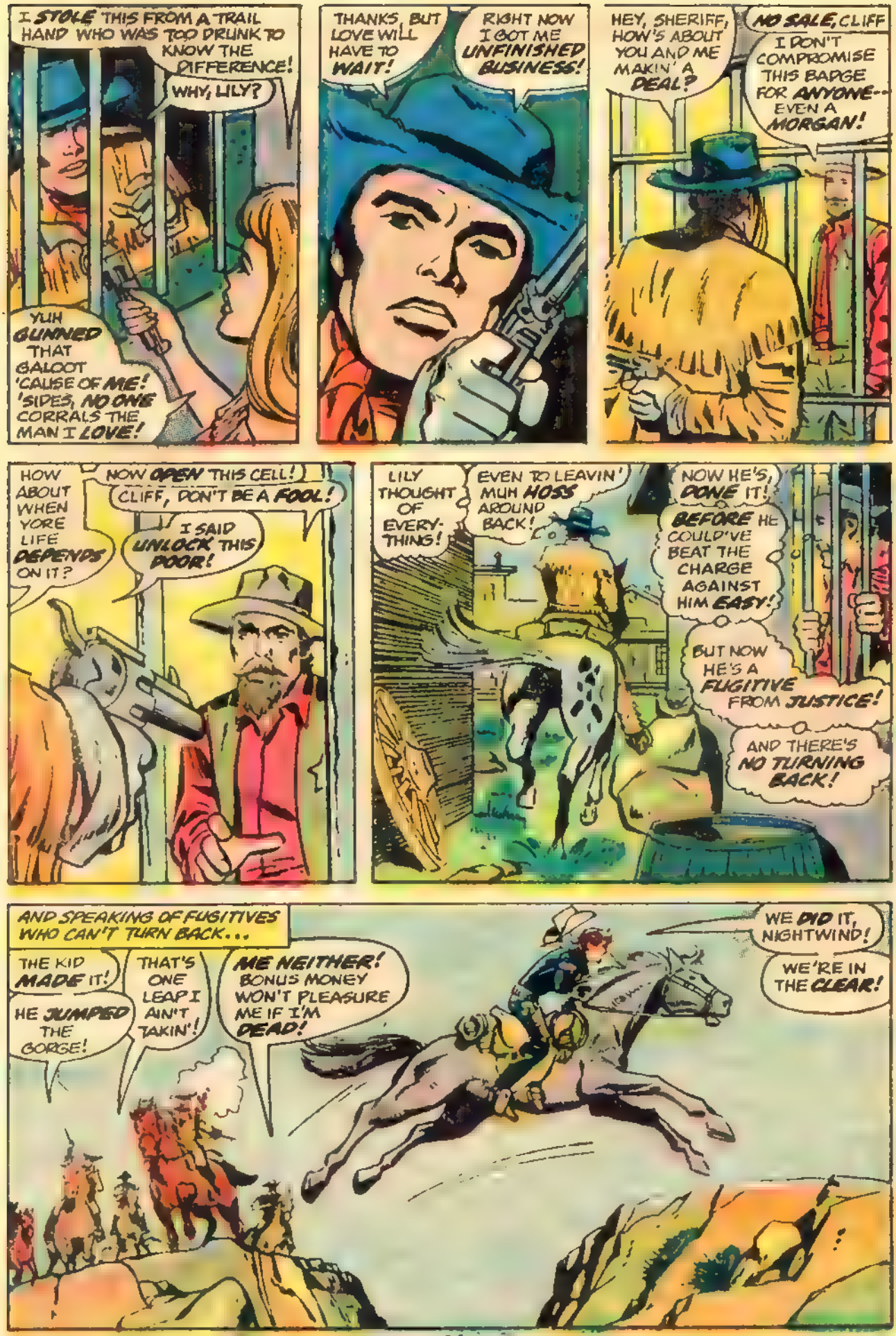
HE'S DEAD!
WE HAD NO CHOICE!
YEH! OKAY, YUH KNOW WHUT TO DO NOW.
YEP!
WE MAKE YUH SEEM AS INNOCENT AS A NEW BORN BABE!
THUD!
AND WHEN THE SCHEMING FOREMAN REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS.
THE RUSTLERS HIT US FROM BEHIND.
THEN THEY WENT AFTER THE HERO!
WHEN WAYDE TRIED TO STOP 'EM, THEY GUNNED 'IM DOWN!
I-IS HE...?
YES, HE'S DEAD!
OH, NO! NOT WAYDE!
HE NEVER HURT ANYONE!
HE WAS THE BEST SON A FATHER EVER HAD!
I-I CAN'T BELIEVE HE'S GONE!
I KNOW HOW MUCH IT HURTS, PA! BUT YOU STILL HAVE ME--AND CLIFF!
DON'T MENTION CLIFF'S NAME TO ME! THIS IS ALL HIS FAULT!
WAYDE GOT KILLED SHOULDERIN' CLIFF'S RESPONSIBILITY!
BUT THERE'S MORE TO IT THAN THAT!
THE RUSTLERS KNEW JUST WHERE TO STRIKE!
THEY MUST'VE BEEN TIPPED OFF BY ONE OF OUR HANDS!
THE RAWHIDE KID?
WHO ELSE HAS A RUTHLESS REP, AND NO SCRUPLES?
LET'S GET 'IM!
THERE'S THE VARMINT NOW!
THIS IS WORKIN' OUT EVEN BETTER'N PLANNED!
REACH, RUSTLER!
UH, OH!

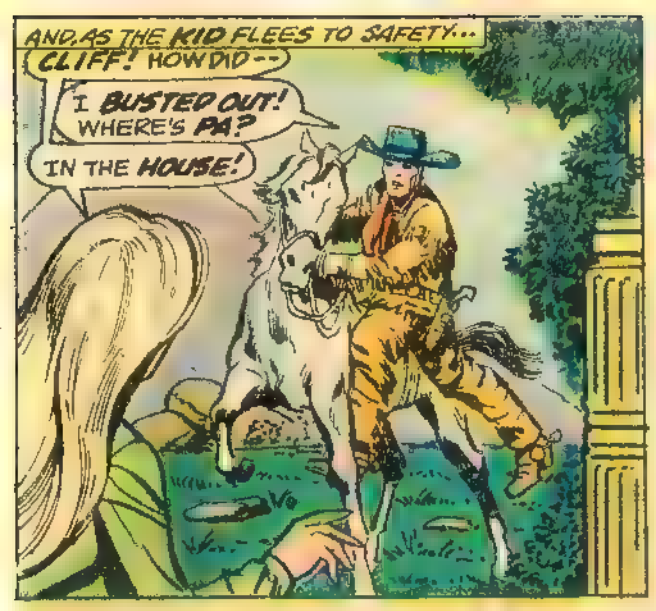

SOMEONE MUST'VE STOLE SOME STEERS...
...AND SET ME UP FOR THE FALL!
LET'S GO, NIGHTWIND! MOVE IT!
HE'S TRYIN' TO ESCAPE!
THAT CINCHES IT! HE'S GUILTY AS ALL GET-OUT!
KRAK!

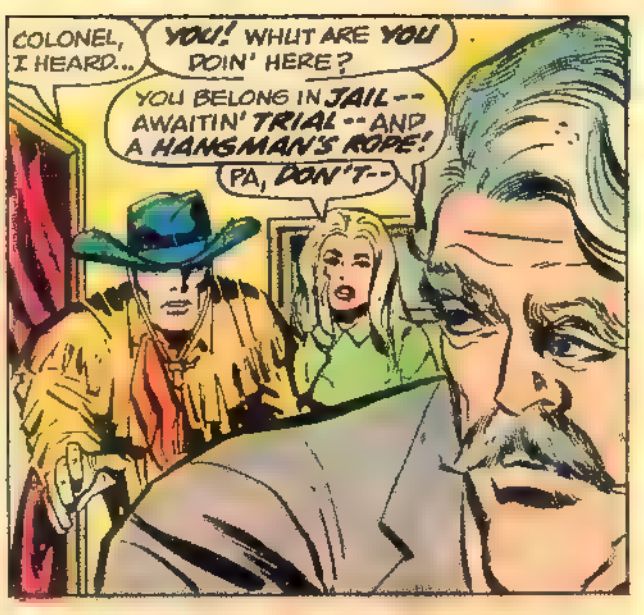

POW!
MY HANDS ARE CLEAN! BUT I'M A GUN HAWK WANTED BY THE LAW!
MY PLEAS WON'T BE WORTH BEANS!
MY ONLY CHANCE IS TO RIDE!
KA-POW
MOLLY! UP!
GET AFTER 'IM!

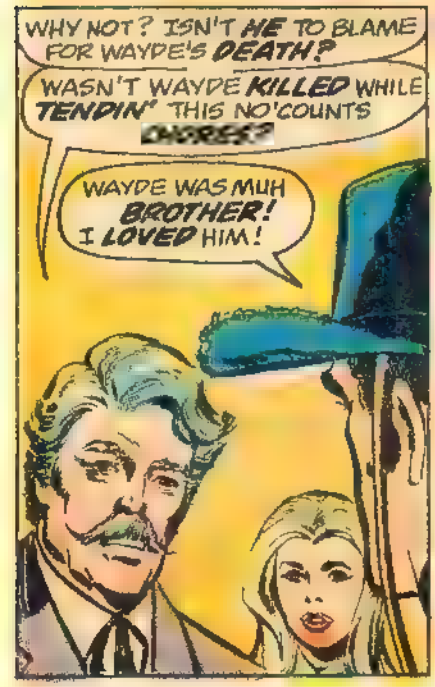
AND, AS THE RAWHIDE KID SEEKS TO ESCAPE HIS PURSUERS...
WAYDE WAS MUH BROTHER!
I'VE GOT TO EVEN THE SCORE FOR HIM!
LET ME OUT, SHERIFF!
SIMMER DOWN, CLIFF!
WE'LL GET WAYDE'S KILLERS!
REST ON IT!

REST, MUH FOOT!
PSSST-- CLINT! OVER HERE!

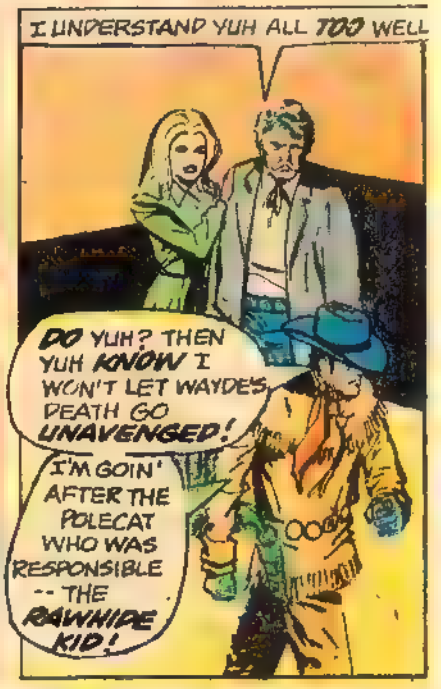

I STOLE THIS FROM A TRAIL HAND WHO WAS TOO DRUNK TO KNOW THE DIFFERENCE!
WHY, LILY?
YUH GUNNED THAT GALOOT 'CAUSE OF ME! 'SIDES, NO ONE CORRALS THE MAN I LOVE!
THANKS, BUT LOVE WILL HAVE TO WAIT!
RIGHT NOW I GOT ME UNFINISHED BUSINESS!
HEY, SHERIFF, HOW'S ABOUT YOU AND ME MAKIN' A DEAL?
NO SALE, CLIFF
I DON'T COMPROMISE THIS BADGE FOR ANYONE-- EVEN A MORGAN!
HOW ABOUT WHEN YORE LIFE DEPENDS ON IT?
NOW OPEN THIS CELL!
CLIFF, DON'T BE A FOOL!
I SAID UNLOCK THIS DOOR!
LILY THOUGHT OF EVERY-THING!
EVEN TO LEAVIN' MUH HOSS AROUND BACK!
NOW HE'S DONE IT!
BEFORE HE COULD'VE BEAT THE CHARGE AGAINST HIM EASY!
BUT NOW HE'S A FUGITIVE FROM JUSTICE!
AND THERE'S NO TURNING BACK!
AND SPEAKING OF FUGITIVES WHO CAN'T TURN BACK...
THE KID MADE IT!
HE JUMPED THE GORGE!
THAT'S ONE LEAP I AIN'T TAKIN'!
ME NEITHER! BONUS MONEY WON'T PLEASURE ME IF I'M DEAD!
WE DID IT, NIGHTWIND!
WE'RE IN THE CLEAR!

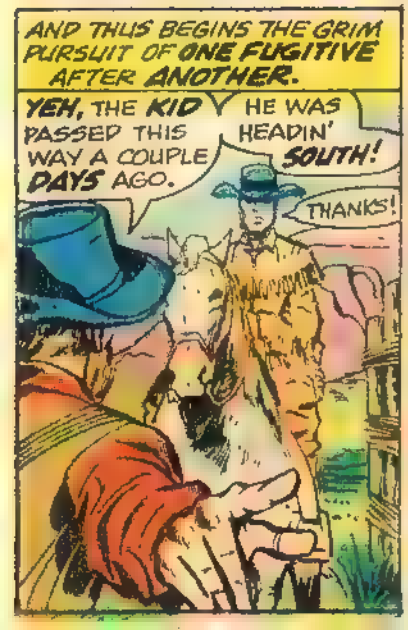

AND AS THE KID FLEES TO SAFETY...
CLIFF! HOW DID--
I BUSTED OUT! WHERE'S PA?
IN THE HOUSE!


COLONEL, I HEARD..
YOU! WHUT ARE YOU DOIN' HERE?
YOU BELONG IN JAIL -- AWAITIN' TRIAL -- AND A HANGMAN'S ROPE!
PA, DON'T--

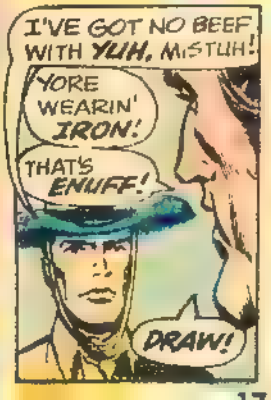

WHY NOT? ISN'T HE TO BLAME FOR WAYDE'S DEATH?
WASN'T WAYDE KILLED WHILE TENDIN' THIS NO'COUNTS CHORES?
WAYDE WAS MUH BROTHER! I LOVED HIM!

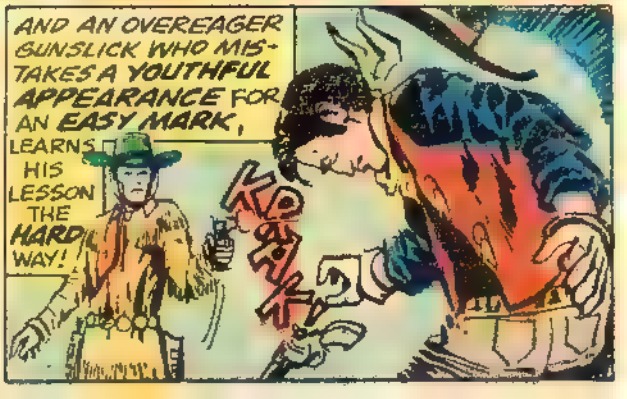
WRONG! YUH'VE NEVER LOVED ANYONE --- OR THOUGHT OF ANYONE -- BUT YORESELF!
NOW GIT OUT OF THIS HOUSE...
AND NEVER COME BACK!
NOTHIN'S CHANGED, HAS IT?
YUH STILL DON'T UNDER-STAND ME!


I UNDERSTAND YUH ALL TOO WELL
DO YUH? THEN YUH KNOW I WON'T LET WAYDE'S DEATH GO UNAVENGED!
I'M GOIN' AFTER THE POLECAT WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE -- THE RAWHIDE KID!


AND THUS BEGINS THE GRIM PURSUIT OF ONE FUGITIVE AFTER ANOTHER.
YEH, THE KID PASSED THIS WAY A COUPLE DAYS AGO.
HE WAS HEADIN' SOUTH!
THANKS!

BUT THE YOUNG FIREBRAND FINDS THE TRAIL LONG AND DANGEROUS.
I'M LOOKIN' FOR--
THE RAWHIDE KID!
HE'S GONE!
IF YORE AFTER A REP TAKIN' ON A FAST GUN...
...I'LL OBLIGE YUH!


I'VE GOT NO BEEF WITH YUH, MISTUH!
YORE WEARIN' IRON!
THAT'S ENUFF!
DRAW!


AND AN OVEREAGER GUNSLICK WHO MISTAKES A YOUTHFUL APPEARANCE FOR AN EASY MARK,
LEARNS HIS LESSON THE HARD WAY!
KA-RAK!

ANYBODY ELSE WANNA DRAW DOWN ON THE DAKOTA KID?
NOT TODAY, MISTUH!
I SUDDENLY FEEL REAL PEACEABLE!
AND SO, THE VENGEANCE SEEKER RIDES ON!
THE KID CROSSED THE STATE LINE! BUT WE'LL CATCH 'IM, BOY--NO MATTER WHERE HE GOES!
BUT THE PURSUER'S EVER GROWING REP TRAVELS EVEN FASTER THAN HIS HORSE!
IT'S THAT GUNSLICK FROM THE DAKOTAS!
YEH! THE ONE THEY'RE CALLIN' THE DAKOTA KID!
AND, FINALLY...
AT LAST! THERE HE IS!
TURN AROUND, RAWHIDE-- AND GET READY TO MEET YORE MAKER!
CLIFF! NO! STOP! YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND!
SHUT UP! YORE WORKIN' WITH THE RUSTLERS WHO KILLED MUH BROTHER!
FOR THAT, YORE GONNA PAY POLECAT!
NO! YOU'RE WRONG!
AM I? THEN WHY'D YUH HIGH-TAIL IT FROM THE RANCH?
BECAUSE NOBODY WOULD BELIEVE ME... AND I KNEW THE ONLY WAY TO CLEAR MYSELF WAS TO TRACK DOWN THE RUSTLERS AND BRING THEM IN!
LOOK! SEE FOR YOURSELF!
THERE THEY ARE-- WAITING FOR THE HEAD MAN TO SHOW!
AND HERE HE COMES NOW!
I-IT'S LOGAN-- THE FOREMAN OF OUR RANCH!

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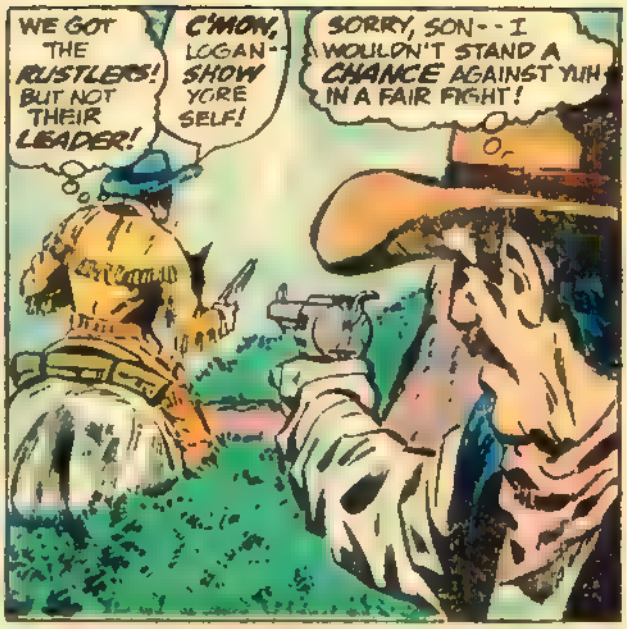
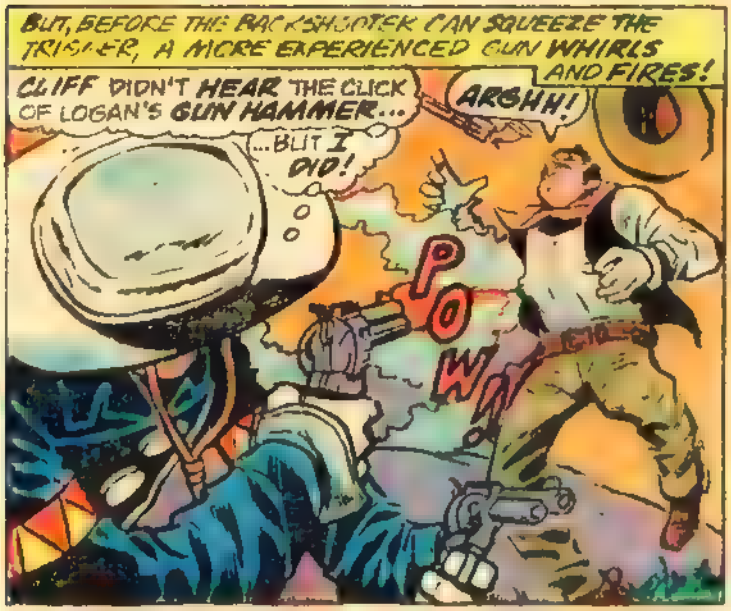
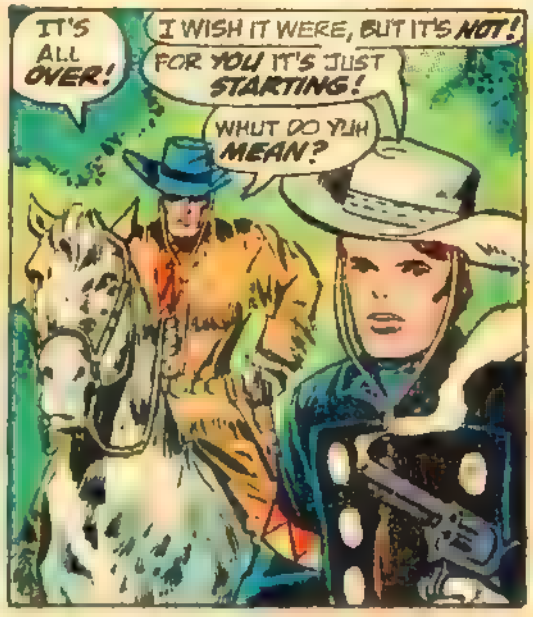
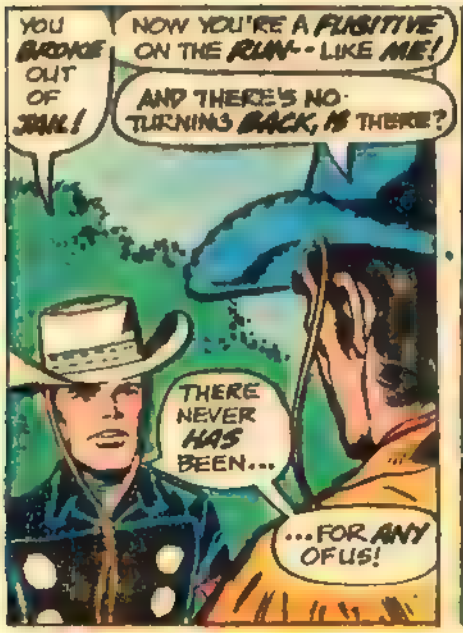
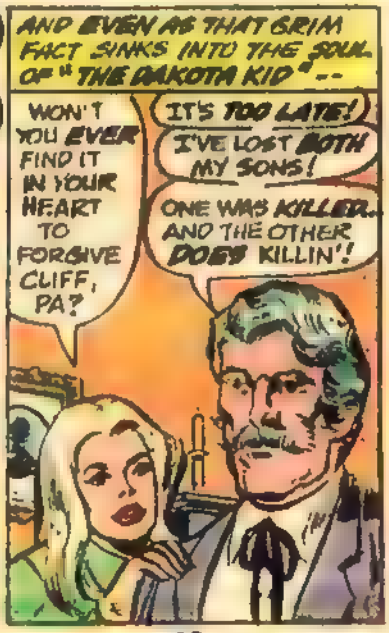
CLIFF USES LEAD!
BUT YOU AIN'T WORTH THE PRICE OF A BULLET!
POW!

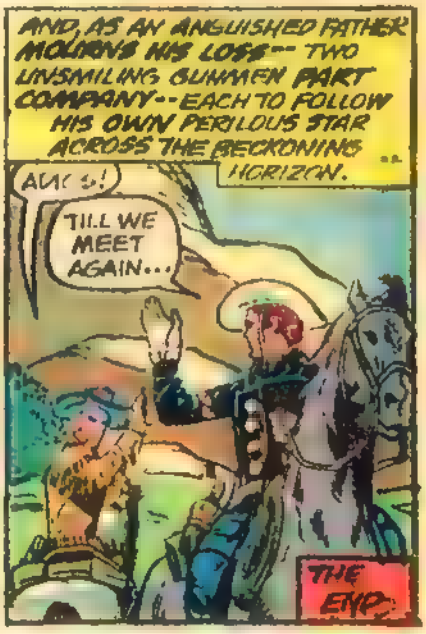

WE GOT THE RUSTLERS! BUT NOT THEIR LEADER!
C'MON, LOGAN-- SHOW YORE SELF!
SORRY, SON-- I WOULDN'T STAND A CHANCE AGAINST YUH IN A FAIR FIGHT!


BUT, BEFORE THE BACKSHOOTER CAN SQUEEZE THE TRIGGER, A MORE EXPERIENCED GUN WHIRLS AND FIRES!
CLIFF DIDN'T HEAR THE CLICK OF LOGAN'S GUN HAMMER...
...BUT I DID!
ARGHH!
POW!


IT'S ALL OVER!
I WISH IT WERE, BUT IT'S NOT!
FOR YOU IT'S JUST STARTING!
WHUT DO YUH MEAN?


YOU BROKE OUT OF JAIL!
NOW YOU'RE A FUGITIVE ON THE RUN-- LIKE ME!
AND THERE'S NO TURNING BACK, IS THERE?
THERE NEVER HAS BEEN...
...FOR ANY OF US!


AND EVEN AS THAT GRIM FACT SINKS INTO THE SOUL OF "THE DAKOTA KID"--
WON'T YOU EVER FIND IT IN YOUR HEART TO FORGIVE CLIFF, PA?
IT'S TOO LATE!
I'VE LOST BOTH MY SONS!
ONE WAS KILLED.. AND THE OTHER DOES KILLIN'!


AND, AS AN ANGUISHED FATHER MOURNS HIS LOSS-- TWO UNSMILING GUNMEN PART COMPANY-- EACH TO FOLLOW HIS OWN PERILOUS STAR ACROSS THE BECKONING HORIZON...
TILL WE MEET AGAIN...
THE END

THE GUNSMOKE KID

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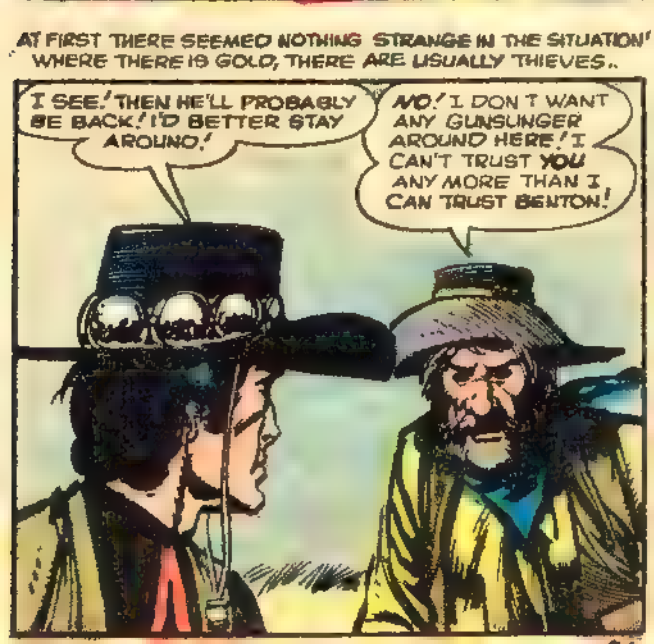
LIKE I SAID, I DON'T LIKE YOUR KIND OF ODDS, MISTER! SO SUPPOSE WE EVEN THINGS UP A BIT!

NOW, MAKE TRACKS!
I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE, BUT BEFORE I'M DONE, YOU'LL WISH YOU'D KEPT YOUR NOSE OUT OF THIS!

YOU OKAY, MISTER? I'M THE GUNSMOKE KID! I WAS RIDING BY
THE GUNSMOKE KID? YOU'RE AS BAD AS BENTON! YOU WANT MY GOLD

I DON'T WANT YOUR GOLD! AND WHO'S BENTON?
YOU JUST MET HIM! HE'S BLOOD BROTHER TO THE PIUTES! HE SAYS IF I DON'T MAKE HIM A PARTNER IN MY MINE THE PIUTES WILL KILL ME!


AT FIRST THERE SEEMED NOTHING STRANGE IN THE SITUATION! WHERE THERE IS GOLD, THERE ARE USUALLY THIEVES..
I SEE! THEN HE'LL PROBABLY BE BACK! I'D BETTER STAY AROUND!
NO! I DON'T WANT ANY GUNSLINGER AROUND HERE! I CAN'T TRUST YOU ANY MORE THAN I CAN TRUST BENTON!

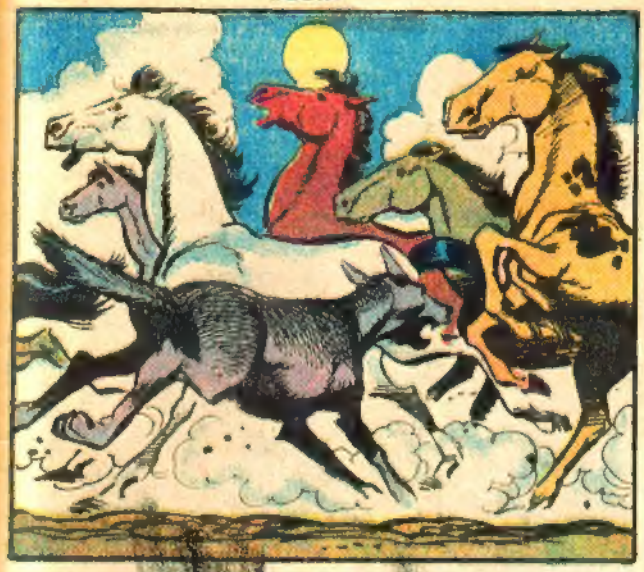
YOU'D BETTER STAND STILL! THERE'S A BIG LOBO BEHIND YOU.
NO! THAT'S KING! DON'T SHOOT!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

BUT TOMORROW MORNING WAS STILL HOURS AWAY...

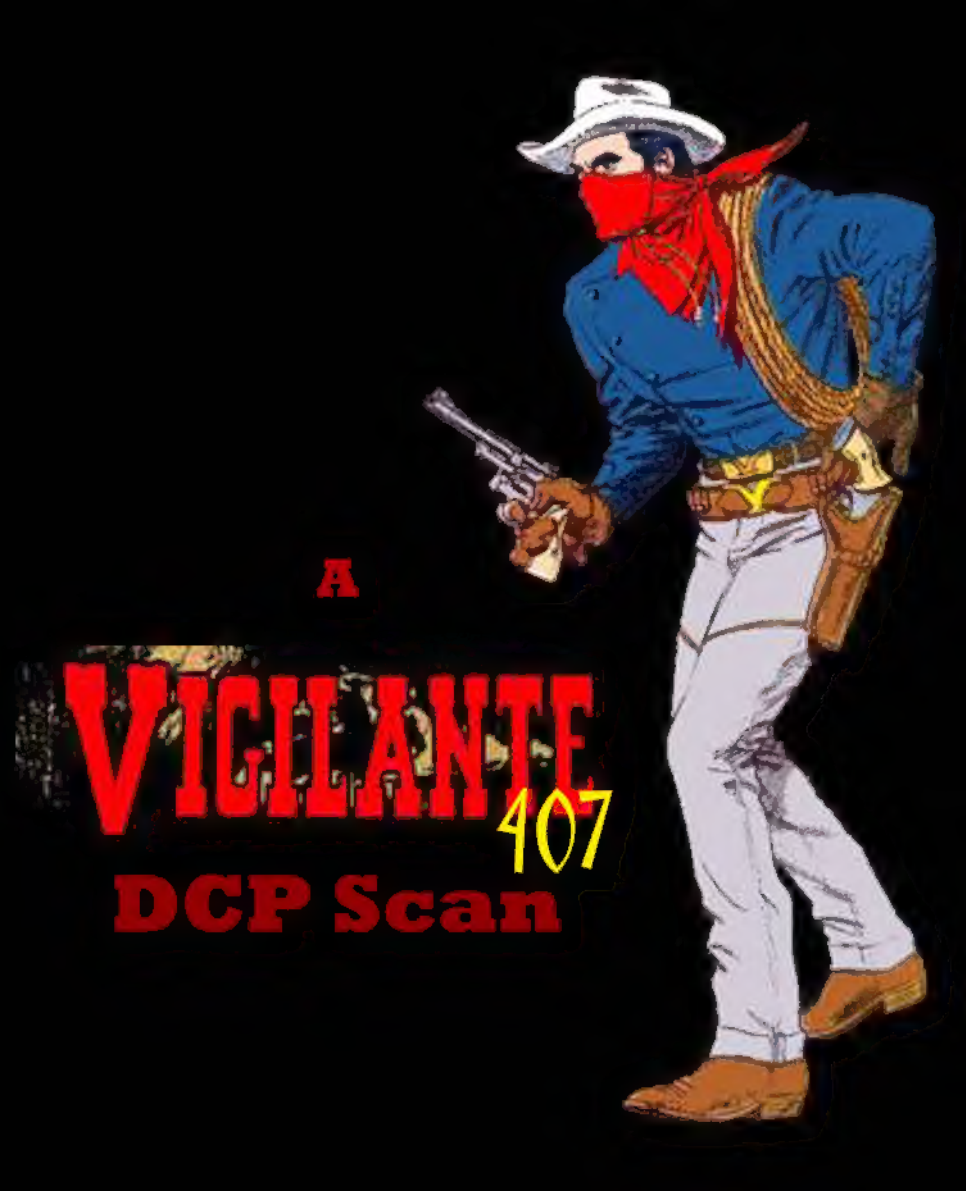
BUT THERE IS A TIME FOR EXPLAINING AND A TIME FOR WORK! THE KID WORKED, WHILE ANDREWS STOOD GUARD...

TO ANDREWS, THE KID'S WORDS MADE NO SENSE! BUT, SOON...



BUT AGAIN, THERE WAS NO TIME FOR EXPLANATIONS! NOT THEN...

IT WAS NOT UNTIL THE PIUTES WERE MILES BEHIND THAT THE KID BOTHERED WITH EXPLANATIONS...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